



Attorney Docket: Bookbinder 16-6-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Bookbinder et al.

Serial No: 09/447,077

Filing Date: 11/22/99

Title: METHODS FOR PROTECTING
SILICA-CONTAINING
ARTICLE AND INHIBITING
BREAKS DURING DRAWING
OF OPTICAL FIBER, AND
SILICA-CONTAINING
ARTICLE PROTECTED
AGAINST BREAK-INDUCING
PARTICULATES

Group Art Unit: 1762

Examiner: W. Markham

REPLY

#9/a
Jude
7/20/02

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JUL 5 - 2002

TC 1700

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action dated January 17, 2002, designated as Paper No.7 in the above-captioned application, please enter the following amendments and Remarks as follows:

In the Specification

Please change the title from "Methods For Protecting Silica-Containing Article And Inhibiting Breaks During Drawing of Optical Fiber, And Silica-Containing Article Protected Against Break-Inducing Particulates" to --Methods for Protecting Silica-Containing Article In Optical Fiber Manufacture--.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 4, 14, 30, and 32-33 as follows:

(Amended) 1. A method of protecting a silica-containing article used in the manufacture of an optical fiber, the method comprising the steps of:
providing a silica-containing article used in the manufacture of an optical fiber; [and]